1	2	3
12	Bhubaneshwar	367
13	Kolkata	5398
14	Bhopal	1569
15	Lucknow	486
16	Kanpur	1595
17	Patna	512
18	Guwahati	726
	TOTAL	91877

Rise in Prices of Essential Commodities

645. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the soaring prices of essential commodities in the market;

(b) if so, the extent to which the prices of essential commodities have gone up during the last one year;

(c) the reasons for increase in the price of essential commodities in the market; and

(d) the measures taken to check the rising trend in prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) 30 essential commodities having weight of 17.63 per cent in the WPI registered an annual inflation rate of 4.4 per cent as on 12th November, 2005 compared to 5.0 per cent recorded a year ago. The details of item-wise inflation rates as on 12th November, 2005 and the corresponding date last year are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) As on the 12th November 2005, 10 items namely arhar, tea, rape & mustard oil, groundnut oil, vanaspati, chillies, coconut oil, kerosene,

long cloth/sheeting and dhoties-sarees & voils, out of 30 essential items witnessed decline in wholesale prices implying negative inflation over the corresponding date last year. However, annual inflation rates were high from gram (18.3%), onions (91.5%), sugar (11.2%), salt (25.1%), bajra (10.5%), moong (10.5%), urad (23.9%), fish (28.8%) and gur (23.7%).

(d) Anti-inflationary policies of the government include strict fiscal and monetary discipline, rationalisation of excise and import duties of essential commodities so that there is no undue burden on the poor, effective supply-demand management of sensitive items through liberal tariff and trade policies, and strengthening of the public distribution system.

Statement

Annual rate of Inflation in terms of WPI of 30 essential commodities as on November 12, 2005

Commodities	Weight %	Annual rate of Inflation Point-to-point(%)	
		05-06	04-05
1	2	3	4
ALL COMMODITIES	**100.00**	**4.2**	**7.7**
ESSENTIAL COMM.	**17.63**	**4.4**	**5.0**
Rice	2.45	4.5	-0.4
Wheat	1.38	1.7	2.1
Gram	0.22	18.3	-5.4
Arhar	0.14	-4.3	1.8
Potatoes	0.26	2.4	60.9
Onions	0.09	91.5	-18.7
Tea	0.16	-19.2	39.3
Sugar	3.62	11.2	15.1
Rape & Mustard Oil	0.49	-8.1	-8.9
Groundnut Oil	0.17	-6.1	11.8
Salt	0.02	25.1	15.0

1	2	3	4
Vanaspati	0.80	-5.4	3.7
Jowar	0.22	4.0	11.3
Bajra,	0.11	10.5	17.9
Moong	0.11	10.5	2.3
Masur	0.04	5.7	-0.6
Urad	0.10	23.9	0.1
Milk	4.37	0.4	4.4
Fish-Inland	0.50	28.8	11.2
Mutton	0.45	3.2	5.2
Chillies (Dry)	0.19	-4.6	-28.6
Atta	0.21	3.5	1.0
Gur	0.06	23.7	45.7
Coconut Oil	0.17	-15.4	5.6
Coking coal	0.24	0.0	26.9
Kerosene	0.69	0.03	0.3
Long cloth/sheeting	0.06	-9.8	8.1
Dhoties, sarees & voils	0.04	-1.0	4.3
Laundry soap	0.17	9.6	-3.8
Safety Matches	0.12	0.0	-4.7

Introduction of Rupees 10 Coin

646. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering favourably for introduction of the Rupees 10 coin in the country on the pattern of Rupee one, Rupees Two and Rupees Five Coins;

(b) if so, by when such coin is expected to be introduced; and